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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/549,277

05/19/2006

Songming Huang

57.0510 US PCT

2472

37003

7590

04/21/2008

SCHLUMBERGER-DOLL RESEARCH

ATTN: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW DEPARTMENT

P.O. BOX 425045

CAMBRIDGE, MA 02142

EXAMINER

DANG, HUNG Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2612

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/21/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-28, drawn to an acoustic telemetry apparatus for communicating digital data from a down-hole location through a borehole to the surface.

Group II, claim(s) 29-33, drawn to a down-hole power generation system adapted to covert acoustic energy from an acoustic wave signal generated at the surface and transmitted down the annulus of a wellbore.

The inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Claim 1 of group I has the following special technical features that group II does not have: a reflecting terminal; a modulator; and sensor(s).

Claim 29 of group II has the following special technical features that group I does not have: a down-hole generator; an electro-acoustic transducer; and an energy storing capacitor.

2. A telephone call was made to Ruth Schreiber on 3/19/2008 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Conclusion


3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG Q. DANG whose telephone number is (571)272-3069. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30AM-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Zimmerman can be reached on (571) 272-3059. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Albert K Wong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2612

/Hung Q Dang/
Examiner, Art Unit 2612

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| <div>Application Number</div> <div></div> | Application/Control No. | Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination | |
| | 10/549,277 | HUANG ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | HUNG Q. DANG | 2612 | |